

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ERDA-05 NASA-01 OES-07
/105 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/MA:AFNEIDLE:LSQ
APPROVED BY ACDA/MA:TDDAVIES
PM:LHGELB
NSC:JMARCUM
ACDA/PA:THALSTED
IO/UNP:RBARRY
S/ LRFLEISCHER

-----087515 291834Z /53

R 291201Z SEP 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
USMISSION USUN NEU YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, UNGA, UR, US

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON GROMYKO UNGA STATEMENT ON
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NUCLEAR TESTS

1. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED FOR, BUT NOT USED AT,
DEPARTMENT'S SEP. 28 NOON BRIEFING, AND MAY BE USED BY
ACTION AND ADDRESSEE POSTS IN RESPONDING TO QUERIES.

(A) QUESTION: AT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON TUESDAY,

FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO SAID THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS WILLING TO JOIN THE US AND UK IN SUSPENDING UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS FOR A CERTAIN PERIOD OF TIME EVEN BEFORE THE OTHER NUCLEAR POWERS ACCEDE TO THE FUTURE TREATY. WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS?

ANSWER: THE US, AS INDICATED BY THE PRESIDENT IN MARCH AT THE UN, FAVORS AN EARLY HALT TO NUCLEAR TESTING AND WE ARE SEEKING A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY WHICH COULD ENTER INTO FORCE BEFORE ALL FIVE NUCLEAR POWERS HAVE ADHERED TO IT; THAT IS, WHEN THE US, THE UK, AND THE USSR HAVE DONE SO. THE SOVIETS, HOWEVER, HAVE SUGGESTED IN THE PAST A BRIEF SUSPENSION OR MORATORIUM ON TESTING BY THE US, THE UK, AND THE USSR WHEN THE TEXT OF A CTB TREATY HAS BEEN WORKED OUT. BUT, THEY HAVE PROPOSED THAT THE TREATY ITSELF COULD NOT ENTER INTO FORCE WITHOUT THE

ADHERENCE OF ALL FIVE NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES. THE GROMYKO STATEMENT APPEARS CONSISTENT WITH THAT EXISTING SOVIET POSITION. OUR NEGOTIATIONS RESUME ON OCTOBER 3RD IN GENEVA AND ALTHOUGH DIFFICULTIES REMAIN TO BE OVERCOME, WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT PROGRESS CAN BE MADE.

(B) QUESTION: IS THE US PREPARED TO SUPPORT A MORATORIUM AT SOME STAGE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS?

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ANSWER: THAT IS A QUESTION THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED AS THE NEGOTIATIONS PROCEED.

(C) QUESTION: THE GROMYKO STATEMENT REFERRED TO "NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS" RATHER THAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS. DOESN'T THE US WANT TO BAN ALL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS, EVEN THOSE STATED TO BE FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES?

ANSWER: THE QUESTION OF HOW NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES WILL BE TREATED UNDER A CTB IS A KEY ISSUE IN THE TALKS, AND WILL HAVE TO BE RESOLVED. AS YOU KNOW, WE SUPPORT A TOTAL BAN. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, POLICIES, AGREEMENTS, THE PRESS, PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE234318
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AFNEIDLE:LSQ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770355-0714
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977097/aaaaafod.tel
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: e3d47f47-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1293225
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS GUIDANCE ON GROMYKO UNGA STATEMENT ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TAGS: PARM, UR, US, UNGA
To: LONDON MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e3d47f47-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009